

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 were pending at the time of the Office Action. Claims 1, 6, 15 and 29-32 have been amended. Claim 27 has been cancelled. These amendments add no new subject matter and are supported by the specification at, for example, p. 5, lines 19-21; p. 6, lines 17-19; p. 7, lines 11-17; and Figs. 2-4 and 7-9, among other places.

Claims 1-4, 10-13, 17, 19, 23, 25-26 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,964,519, issued to Chun-Ying. The Chun-Ying patent describes a reading lamp assembly, which includes a reading lamp, a music box and a fragrance holder. As can be seen in Figs. 2 and 4 of the Chun-Ying patent, timer circuit 3 receives electrical current from a flexible electrical power cord (not numbered), presumably leading to a conventional wall plug.

However, the Chun-Ying patent is silent on the subject of a plug including contact blades rigidly mounted with respect to a housing so that, when the contact blades are inserted into an electrical wall socket, the plug mechanically supports the apparatus as recited in Claim 1. Therefore, the rejection under §102(e) is inappropriate and may be withdrawn.

Claims 9 and 27 stand rejected under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Chun-Ying patent. However, the Chun-Ying patent neither teaches nor suggests an apparatus comprising a housing and a plug including contact blades rigidly mounted with respect to the housing so that, when the contact blades are inserted into an electrical wall socket, the plug mechanically supports the apparatus as recited in dependent Claim 9. Additionally, it is an object of the Chun-Ying patent to provide a reading lamp that provides sufficient light for reading without eye strain (see col. 1, lines 11-18). This object is incompatible with an

apparatus supported by a wall plug. Therefore, the rejection of Claim 9 under §103(a) over the Chun-Ying patent is inappropriate and may be withdrawn.

Claim 20 stands rejected under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Chun-Ying patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,517,264, issued to Sutton. However, the Chun-Ying patent is silent on the subject of an apparatus comprising a housing and a plug including contact blades rigidly mounted with respect to the housing so that, when the contact blades are inserted into an electrical wall socket, the plug mechanically supports the apparatus as recited in dependent Claim 20.

The Sutton patent describes a night light 10 plugged into a wall socket (not shown) and suspended by the prongs of an electrical plug that are inserted in a wall socket. In column 4, lines 48-64, the Sutton patent describes a rotating plug arrangement that reportedly permits the night light to be rotated through an arc of 180° for selecting a location on either the ceiling or wall where a projected image will be displayed.

However, the teachings of the Chun-Ying patent cannot properly be combined with those of the Sutton patent because the Chun-Ying patent describes a reading lamp assembly having a body 1 including a base having post 11 and a reading lamp 12 fixedly disposed upon the base (see col. 2, lines 7-10 and Fig. 1 of the Chun-Ying patent). A primary object of the Chun-Ying patent is to provide a reading lamp assembly that provides sufficient light for reading (see col. 1, lines 11-18 and 26-27). Attempting to employ the reading lamp assembly of the Chun-Ying patent as a night light held in place along a wall by the prongs of an electrical plug, as described in the Sutton patent (e.g., col. 3, lines 42-46), would defeat this primary object of the Chun-Ying patent. Conversely, attempting to use a reading lamp assembly that provides sufficient light for teenagers suffering from myopia (col. 1, lines 11-12) as a night light that can be mounted on a

wall through use of the electrical plug prongs is impractical. Therefore, the proposed combination of teachings is improper and the rejection of Claim 20 under §103(a) may be withdrawn.

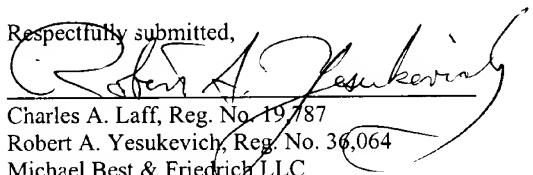
Claim 21 stands rejected under U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Chun-Ying patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,982,414, issued to Yoshida et al. However, the Chun-Ying patent is silent on the subject of an apparatus comprising a housing and a plug including contact blades, the contact blades being rigidly mounted with respect to the housing so that, when the contact blades are inserted into an electrical wall socket, the plug mechanically supports the apparatus as recited in dependent Claim 21. Significantly, the Yoshida et al. patent cannot be relied upon to cure the deficiencies of the Chun-Ying patent because the Yoshida et al. patent is also silent on this subject. Therefore the rejection of Claim 21 under §103(a) is inappropriate and may be withdrawn.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has found allowable subject matter in original Claims 5-8, 14-16, 18, 22 and 24. Independent Claims 29-33 have been added to include all of the limitations of Claims 5, 14, 18, 22 and 24, respectively.

Allowance of the subject application, including all pending claims, is courteously solicited. In the alternative, reconsideration of the subject application is sincerely requested.

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Respectfully submitted,


Charles A. Laff, Reg. No. 19,787
Robert A. Yesukevich, Reg. No. 36,064
Michael Best & Friedrich LLC
401 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1900
Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 222-0800
fax: (312) 222-0818

Attorneys for Applicant

AMENDMENTS WITH MARKINGS

1. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for emitting light, sound and fragrance comprising:

a housing;

a plug including contact blades, the contact blades being rigidly mounted with respect to the housing so that when the contact blades are inserted into an electrical wall socket, the plug mechanically supports the apparatus;

a lighting system, a sound system and a fragrance system, each of the systems disposed in or on the housing;

means for energizing the systems;

wherein the lighting system comprises a light source;

wherein the sound system comprises a circuit board, at least one sound chip, an amplifier and a speaker; and

wherein the fragrance system comprises means for containing and dispensing fragrance to the surrounding area.

6. (Amended) The article of claim [5] 29, wherein the faceplate contains translucent areas to allow the passage of light from the light source within the housing to the surrounding area outside the housing.

15. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [30] 14, wherein the housing contains an area to receive the receptacle, and the receiving area and receptacle have cooperating connectors that interconnect to retain the receptacle in the housing during use and operation of the [article] apparatus.



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